

dead formality, of little worth to man and dishonoring to God. That it may be perpetuated, to the glory of God and the happiness of man, it must be shown to the world in its true beauty and loveliness thru the medium of personal Christian character.

The life of the Spirit in the inner man, manifesting itself in the generous deeds, human acts and honest dealings of the outer man, will go far to convince the world of the unspeakable worth of the religion of Christ to the human soul. Such a life is a visible manifestation of those great truths of which our creeds are the symbols, mere symbols only.

A ray of white light passed thru a prism upon a screen, will appear to the eye of a beholder as a band of many beautiful colors. It is the property of a prism thus to separate a ray of white light into the many colors of which it is composed. In a similar manner the soul of man, when wrought upon by the Spirit of God, may show forth to the world the graces of a Christian character. As, however, the colors flashed from the most brilliant diamond are but the constituent colors of a single ray of white light, so all Christian graces are but the constituent elements of a holy character formed in a man by God's Holy Spirit.

Upon the foundation of such a character the Christian may raise the superstructure of life in such grand and symmetrical proportions that will stand like a beautiful temple furnished with every work of art, a monument to the praise and glory of the Divine Architect.

#### Lives That Lift

New York Observer.

Those that have first been lifted. "And I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto me." Few perhaps discover this truth in Paul's words, "Come out from among them and be ye separate." Separate why? In order to service. No man can help his fellowmen while sharing their character or condition. The poor cannot relieve poverty, nor the ignorant instruct the illiterate, nor the immoral purify the impure. The farther we are from men the more we can help and the nearer we can come. Jesus was the nearest to men because the farthest away. Only those high up can reach low down. Put Christ's spirit into men and their culture, their wealth, their spiritual endowments, become levers to lift the world to God.

We find this truth in the parable of the leaven. The lifeless and useless dough is lifted into a splendid expansion and service by the all-pervasive and powerful leaven. Thus society is lifted and redeemed by the penetrating influence of Christian men and women. Their uplifting power was never so manifest thru-out the world as during the marvelous missionary century now nearing its close. The New Hebrides were lifted by one man, humanly speaking, from cannibalism, and the lowest depths of degradation to the purest and most exalted type of Christianity. He is one of thousands who have

been lifting humanity in all lands into the life of God.

Lives that lift are holy lives, loving lives, ceaselessly active and ardent lives. They represent God in character, Christ in self-sacrificing love, the Holy Spirit in ministry.

Such lives may be found wherever there is human need. They minister in the quiet of the home; carry the principles of the Gospel into the world's traffic and relentless commercial strife; are found in halls of legislation giving conscience to governments and setting ideals of integrity and human brotherhood; are serving youth as character builders in our schools and colleges; are representing Christ in the pulpits and mission fields at home and abroad. Is yours such a life?

#### Quietness Within

"We cannot make the world quiet about us; its noise cannot be hushed; we must always hear its clatter and strife. We cannot find anywhere in the world a quiet place to live in, where we shall be undisturbed ourselves. We cannot make people around us so loving and gentle that we shall never have anything harsh, uncongenial, or unkindly to offend us. The quietness must be in us, in our own hearts. Nothing else will give it but the peace of God. We can have this peace, too, if we will. God will give it to us if we will simply take it."

### The Mission Field

From the National Capital

Another precious soul added to the fold by baptism on last Sunday evening. We continue to praise God because of the manifest presence of the Holy Spirit in our midst. Meetings are not so large since the warm weather has begun, but all things considered, we have much to encourage us on the way. We prefer the steady, gradual growth to that of the "mushroom" type. Many more would unite with us if we were able in some way to get a gospel without the thirteenth of John in it. O, how many there are who instead of being lifted heavenward by joyfully and meekly accepting this soul-inspiring symbol of the blessed Christ, let it become a "stumbling block" to them. What a pity! When I find so many, so very many, who are not willing to render obedience to this part of the Master's teaching, I often think of what Naaman said to him, (II Kings 5: 13, "If the prophet had bid thee do some great thing wouldst thou not have done it?")

And again and again I think of the telling reply of a little girl who once said, "If Jesus didn't mean what he said, why didn't he say what he meant?"

Not long ago I talked with one of the leading members of the Metropolitan Methodist church of this city—the church home of President McKinley—and this member who has been a warm friend of mine for several years said to me, "I have always believed in those things, (referring to our love feast, practice, etc.) and think that they should

still be observed," etc. And yet on account of the standing in "society" which he has, he fails to have the courage of his convictions. And yet there are thousands of people all about us who would gladly give obedience to this service if the king of society and fashion would once adopt its use, but because the despised Nazarene and the coming King of kings and Lord of lords has given us the example as well as the command, it is set aside as an empty and purposeless symbol!

And here I take occasion to speak of a circumstance which occurred recently, an account of which has been given to me by the brother whom I baptized on last Sunday evening. He comes from the south and if I understood him correctly the lady referred to is a relative of his. This lady fell into a trance and her friends thought she was dead. On the third day she showed signs of life and became conscious for about two hours, after which death followed. During this time of consciousness she talked freely with her friends and related many wonderful things which she had seen during the time she seems to have been in the spirit world, and among these things she mentioned *feetwashing*, and exhorted her Christian friends to follow this beautiful example of their Lord and Savior. I asked this brother if there had been any discussion of any kind on this subject among the people where this lady had lived. He replied, "No, none whatever; neither the lady nor any of her friends had ever talked on the subject to my knowledge, and no one had ever advocated this teaching."

This circumstance impressed me considerably, and at once my mind was directed to Luke 12: 37. "Blessed are those servants, whom the Lord, when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall *gird Himself* and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them."

About the last thing Jesus did before dying for us on the cross was to gird himself and serve his own disciples, and it seems that it is to be among the first things he shall do when he comes in the glory of the next dispensation. Why then should it be counted such a strange thing for his disciples to thus perpetuate his example during the time intervening? Brethren, should we not write more on this subject and set forth the spiritual meaning of this beautiful symbol of our Lord?

But I did not think of writing so much on this subject in this letter, however, it is no doubt much more important than to have written about some other things that were on our mind.

Before closing perhaps we should once more speak of the trial thru which we have been called to pass, and which increases in severity from week to week. I refer to the failure to receive any financial support from the National Board for over two months. This makes it rather embarrassing, of course, for your unworthy servant. We shall continue to pray that relief may soon come.

Special thanks are hereby tendered to